

The National Republican.

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Amusements.
NATIONAL—Barley Campbell's White Slave.
FORD'S—Callender's Minstrels.
CONQUE—Fleming's Minstrels.
DINK MEYER—Matinee and evening performance.

Auction Sales.
TO-DAY.
By JOHN SHERMAN & CO.—Trustee's sale of valuable improved property.

By WALKER B. WILLIAMS—On Feb. 1, sale of fine silks at Tyler & Channing's.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1884.

SENATOR ALLISON has been again elected. His election on the twenty-second was a week ahead of time. Yesterday the second election of the day before was declared in joint convention. It is believed that he can now read his title clear.

SENATOR MAHONEY's speech on the Sherman resolutions was eloquent and able. He honored Virginia by defending her from the appearance of guilt in the matter of the recent outrages committed on her soil by a violent minority faction.

MR. BELMONT has found the little joker in the tariff question. It is this: "A tariff for revenue only" means "only" enough revenue to serve the purposes for which revenue is raised. No matter how duties are levied nor how much they protect so long as they do not produce a surplus over necessities. What a discovery!

JAY GOULD makes a very able newspaper editor, and manages to be heard through various journals. If he cannot write with his pen he can talk with his mouth, and he harnesses up the papers to his little wagon with much facility. It is kind of Jay to be giving the lambs of Wall street his honest opinions as to the stock jobbing operations of great corporations. It enables them to make money in stocks.

The speech of Senator Sherman in support of his resolutions for the investigation of political crimes in the south was patriotic and worthy of the cause and the occasion. It appealed to the highest elements in human nature, and breathed the sentiments which must be fully aroused in the country in order to make republican success possible. Not only must the awful condition of southern affairs be recognized, but, as Mr. Sherman says, a remedy must be devised.

OUR morning neighbor is entitled to the credit for much influence on the border side of the senate. It advised allies on the Sherman resolutions, and the democrats were dumb. It is always best for men to keep still who have nothing to say. The Coghlan resolutions are a democratic confession of political outrage and lawlessness which cannot be answered. If the democratic party does not rule in Mississippi by the bloody law of might, then it goes a good deal out of its way to lie on itself.

It is not at all probable that Judah P. Benjamin ever wrote the stupid letter of August, 1869, signed "Benjamin," alleged to have been found among the papers of Thurlow Weed, in which it was declared that the south was longing to rush into the arms of old Mother Britannia. The letter itself sufficiently acquits Mr. Benjamin, for after declaring that its author is a member of congress, and that he does not for obvious reasons sign his name—the name "Benjamin" is signed—the most cloistered would not suspect a United States senator named Benjamin of writing a letter intended to be anonymous and signing it with his own surname. THE REPUBLICAN never took any stock in the canard. It seems quite likely that it has been concocted to give Mr. Benjamin a good send off by giving him a chance to say that he had not done the silly thing charged against him.

THE Post thinks the silence of the democratic senators on Sherman's resolutions was "disappointing to a few restless, malignant spirits who are making a desperate effort to revive dead issues and rekindle the flames of sectional animosity." The innocent killing of a few republicans, in the hope of frightening them all into submission to the national democracy of the south, has, no doubt, aroused considerable animosity among the sectional republicans of the north. We deplore this condition of affairs as much as our neighbor possibly can, and, in a spirit of conciliation, we suggest that, as the sectional prejudices of our own party continue to exhibit themselves toward the rightful national sentiments which inspire political murders at the south, the national democracy stop killing southern republicans and thereby remove all excuse for sectional animosity on the part of malignant republicans at the north.

THE Post, which is the Washington organ of the democratic wing of the republican party, as it long has been, lays aside its democratic tone long enough to aggravate its voice and roar as gently as any sucking dove of a dough-faced republican to the effect that those who complain of the Virginia and Mississippi political murders "have not the hearty support of any considerable number of republicans in or out of congress." This is the same sort of twaddle that goes over to the New York Tribune, Times, and Philadelphia Press. The bourgeois are always fortunate in securing the active services of a small coterie of apologetic republicans who are ready to swear that all democrats are sinners, and that their crimes are virtues, and while the republicans are always vile and worthy only of the death which is so liberally doled out among them by bourgeois shotguns. A New England satirist described northern apologists for southern barbarity as "con-

tented lickspittles." The pretense that republicans, with but here and there an exception, applaud the Danville massacre and the murder and the outlaws in Mississippi is better reading in the democratic Post than it is in the great metropolitan dailies which seek to exercise acts of ownership over the republican party. Then, again, there are some alleged republicans whose politics are in full accord with the Post and its kuxlux friends and political brethren. For such it speaks.

The Servile Labor Question Ably Explicated.

Mr. Rice, of Massachusetts, opposes any amendment to the act for enforcing the recent treaty stipulations with China. He represents those who favor Chinese emigration. He will make a minority report to the house from his committee, to which was referred the bill agreed on by the Pacific coast senators and representatives. There is a strong coalition between Philanthropy and Thrift in this matter of Chinese importation, just as aforesaid there was in the slave trade. Believing that Mr. Rice and those in congress who agree with him represent the philanthropic wing of this combination, we desire to bring to his and their notice a soft breeze from the Pacific, which wafts to us a little of the spice of thrift which manages to ride and tie with religion in the premises. It is from the report of the committee on labor of the "Planters' Labor and Supply company" made at the annual meeting of the latter at Honolulu in October last. The committee consisted of Samuel T. Alexander, G. N. Wilcox, William O. Smith, and A. C. Cuna. The first-named three are the sons of missionaries to the Sandwich Islands, and their early training did not appear to have prevented them from entertaining very practical views in worldly affairs. If rum and religion and slavery and philanthropy can go hand in hand, these thrifty islanders have found the road on which they may travel. In the report before us this committee first ask themselves the following questions:

The future action of this country in relation to the coming of the Chinese your committee deem one of the most important problems of the times. Shall we encourage Chinese emigration, and to what extent? Shall we permit the Chinese to come without bringing their wives with them? Following is their answer:

Your committee thoroughly believe in Chinese labor, not because it is the very best—the Portuguese is better—but because it is the only available source from which we can secure an adequate supply of labor at reasonable rates. * * * No country is expected to prosecute industries which are not profitable, and the experience of sugar growing the world over goes to prove that cheap labor is better than plain words, servile labor (the italics are the committee's—Ed. Rep.) must be employed in order to render this enterprise successful.

If this old-fashioned language should cause Mr. Rice, of Massachusetts, or any others of the philanthropy side to wince, let the committee be allowed to muffle the sound a little so as to take off some of its harshness. They say:

Men shoulder at the word servile labor as though it were akin to slave labor, but the term has no such significance. In arguing that servile labor is only men to say that we must fall back on the lower strata (again the italics are the committee's—Ed. Rep.) of society, because it is cheap labor, and because it is adapted to the tropics.

What would take the "shudder" off from the idea of servile labor if not such velvet-slipped phrases as these? They make one feel as though it was an act of kindness to the "lower strata" to keep it low, expressly that it may fill this important place in the economy of nature and money-making sugar planting.

Concerning the proposition made in the interest of morality, "that no males be allowed to come unless they bring with them their wives," the committee say:

Without exacting such rigorous conditions, and thereby perhaps shutting out Chinese labor altogether, we would not advocate that arrangements, if possible, be made by which Chinese, with their families, may be brought into the country. A measure of this kind we grant will do more toward making these islands essentially Chinese than all that has been done heretofore; but the political condition of things is abnormal, and the interests of morality, as well as the security of life and property, demand a move in this direction.

The suggestion that such a measure would either exclude Chinese labor altogether or make the islands essentially Chinese throws considerable doubt over the genuineness of the recommendation that it be adopted. We have copied these plain words of the thrifty sons of some of the Sandwich Islands missionaries in order that our eastern pro-Chinese philanthropists may borrow from them, and thus enrich the debates with humanitarian doctrines which do not hurt the pocket.

ON THE AVENUE.

Small Talk About Dea and Messers.
"I see that arrangements are making for the relief of Lieut. Greely and his party," said Capt. Elias Homestead, an old sailor of New London, Conn. "And I would like to tell the President of a Yankee whaler's plan. Let a reward of \$300,000 be offered for the safe return of Lieut. Greely and all his men to a designated place in the United States, or satisfactory proof that all who are not returned are dead. Make it a condition that the expedition shall consist of two steamers of about 500 tons each, and each to be manned by thirty-seven men, who shall be classed and paid as follows, which is the co-operative plan on which New England whaling was pursued:

Captain, 1-20th share.....	\$8,000.00
Chief mate, 1-40th share.....	\$4,000.00
Second mate, 1-50th share.....	\$3,000.00
Third mate, 1-60th share.....	\$2,500.00
Fourth mate, 1-80th share.....	\$2,000.00
Five harpooners, 1-30th share each (15).....	\$3,000.00
Six crewmen, 1-100th share each (60).....	\$6,000.00
One carpenter, 1-100th share.....	\$1,000.00
Two engineers, 1-50th share each (\$500).....	\$1,000.00
One doctor, 1-100th share.....	\$1,000.00
One steward, 1-100th share.....	\$1,000.00
One cook, 1-100th share.....	\$1,000.00
Eighteen seamen, 1-200th share each.....	\$9,000.00
Four firemen, 1-200th share each (\$750).....	\$3,000.00
Total.....	\$52,500.00

\$52,500.00 for compensation to each of the two crews..... \$105,000.00
\$97,125.00 for compensation to owners of each of the two vessels..... 194,125.00
Total..... \$309,125.00

"This is about the proportionate share, or 'lay,' as it was termed in New England whaling ports. The whaling industry has to a great extent ceased, leaving large numbers of men formerly engaged in it with very precarious employments, and many will gladly turn to this adventure who as navigators, sailors, and boatmen have no superiors and few equals. This plan will insure to each vessel men to fill the positions of captain, first, second, third, and fourth mates, each one of whom will be fully competent to command the expedition, and the harpooners and seamen will represent petty officers and crews, such as have seldom, if ever, been assembled on any vessel. Let each vessel have the six whale-boats usual to whaling vessels, four on the cranes and two spinnies—let them be provided with sleds, dogs, and Eskimo Indians as may be deemed necessary; then proceed in company to some place as far north as it may be thought prudent, where one vessel shall then cache her surplus stores, and take on board two boats and their crews, dogs, sleds, Eskimo Indians, etc., from the one which is to be moored in harbor, and push on to the extreme point toward Greely's station, sending out parties by boat and sled to search in every manner possible. Each vessel to be under the sole charge of its captain always, and only providing that when Lieut. Greely is found he shall immediately be placed in supreme command of the entire expedition. If this plan is pursued there can be but little doubt that all who are living of Lieut. Greely's party—and let us hope that all will be found alive—will be safely returned to their homes, and then it would seem to be wise that all such expeditions cease, for it does seem that good men can be of greater use in the world that are when perishing in the ice and snow, and for no possible benefit. If this reward be offered, merchants of probity and experience will furnish vessels and outfits, and men of ability and experience, who have no superiors for such work, will compete for situations on board the vessels."

Said a leading southerner: "Our people have for their worst fault an ingrained belief in their own superiority to the rest of the world. This feeling sometimes crops out under circumstances where its manifestation seems very ludicrous. I was at Hot Springs, Ark., a few years ago. Two sports from the north were there, who, in the vicissitudes of poker, injudicious use of the copper, and other mischances common to that resort, had seen their wealth melt away, until between them they could only muster twenty dollars. They were anxious to get away, but needed twenty more in order to carry out their desire. The two worthies took a walk into the country, and while discussing various schemes for acquiring the needed lucre, espied afar off an old farmer resting under a tree by the roadside. Struck by a happy inspiration one communicated to the other a plan whereby he thought the farmer could be made to contribute to their necessities. Leaving his comrade he sauntered along until he came up to the granger, and after exchanging salutations, discussing the weather, farming prospects, etc., said:

"This is a splendid chestnut tree we are under. I didn't know there were any in this country."
"Wal, stranger, it is a fine tree, but it's not a chestnut. It's a white oak."
"Oh, no! It is a chestnut. They grow all about where I was raised, so that I am entirely familiar with their appearance."

To this Arkansas vehemently responded the tree was a white oak, and it did not take long for the two disputants to determine to back up their opinions by a bet of \$20. The money produced, the farmer asked how the question should be settled.

"Wal," said the sport, "I am willing for anybody who comes along to say who is right. Suppose we sit down here and leave it to the first man who passes by."

"I'm agreeable," said Arkansas, and down they sat.
A few minutes sport No. 2 came along the road, and in passing spoke to the two as if both were total strangers, and was walking off when he was hailed and called back. The controversy and bet having been explained he was requested by both parties to decide whether the tree was a chestnut or white oak.

"Well, said he, I don't like to interfere in bets between strangers, but this is certainly a fine chestnut tree as I ever saw."
"Wal," said Arkansas, "here's your twenty, but you are two of the d—dest fools I ever saw."

"Yes," said the eccentric Pittsburger, "he is here again."
"Who?" asked the Avenue Man.
"Why, Hon. S. Newton Pitts, ex-representative, ex-judge, and ex-United States minister to Bolivia. He's after the Dakota governorship, and I shouldn't be at all surprised to see him catch it. He is the one man that Pennsylvania can always count on to represent the state in any contest for any important government office in which there may be a vacancy. I tell you there is hope for us as long as he lives, and—I give you this in strict confidence—some day I expect to see S. Newton come with the presidential nomination snugly packed away in the bottom of his grip-sack. In his unbridled dictionary of life there's no such phrase as 'turned down to stay.'"

pound since the treaty went into operation. I might incidentally remark, however, that if it were not for the high freight rates on sugars charged by the Union and Central Pacific railroads, we would get our 'sweatin' for much less. As it is now, sugars from the east cannot be shipped to the Pacific coast and compete with the refineries there. It's not the treaty, but the monopoly fastened on us by the exorbitant freight tariff, that makes our high price for sugars."

"Yes, I'm a constable," said the man with the limp, "but I tell yer things have changed here in the last forty years. Once such a thing as going for the household goods or valubles of a member of congress or a government clerk was never heard tell of. Now, by jinks, we are after 'em more'n anybody else, and have a hard time with 'em, too. Do yer see that scab? Well, the wife of a southern congressman hit me with a flat iron while I was trying to levy on the baby's crib and her husband's valubles for a 'fifty' issued on a bill for a seal-skin coat. We gets all battered up at times, and then the business don't pay, no how. Last week I was sent down to that dime museum on Ninth street to make a levy. Well, when I got that there were nothing left but a 'bear contrivance.' I made an effort to get the durned scab into a bag so I could git him down stairs and inter a push cart. It ended up by the scab bustin' out'n the sack, nearly stranglin' the nigger, and then scuttin' up his hole. I tell yer what's wanted in this durned city is a revision of the law or we'll starve dead certain."

"I shall not vote for the resolution giving each congressman a private secretary," said Mr. Lacey, of Michigan. "There is no doubt but that some of the members, especially on this side of the house, are overworked and haven't time to attend properly to the work for which they were sent here because of the mass of letters they are obliged to answer. But many of the members on the democratic side have no more use for a private secretary than a toad has for two tails. Their constituents are not writing to them about pensions, and bounties, and federal offices, and their correspondence is not so great but that they can attend to it. Its different with me. I have so much work to do that I am compelled to employ a clerk, but I shall not vote to have the government pay him. I look at it in this way. When I was elected I knew what the duties were: how much work I should have to do. I knew just what the salary was and that the government did not pay for a clerk for me. I was not forced to accept the office on these conditions, but, having accepted it, I consider that there is a sort of contract, between me and my district, and I am to live up to it."

"It is reported," said the Avenue Man, "that the new private secretaries which the senators have voted to themselves and appointed; will have to whistle for their pay, as the house will refuse to appropriate money for their salaries. What do you think of it?"

"They will get their pay without any trouble. That matter will be settled by a conference committee composed of gentlemen who understand that the senate is responsible for its own expenses and must take the responsibility before the country for its action. The house will vote as an appropriation for senate expenses just what the senate asks, although just now some members may kick against it."

"I don't intend to say," continued Mr. Lacey, "that this movement to furnish senators and representatives with clerks is altogether against the interests of the people. It costs more and more every year for a congressman to live, and the man who has a family and is obliged to live on his salary is all the time in straightened circumstances. The present tendency is to drive poor men out of both houses, and I don't think that is in the interest of the people. To furnish clerks to those who are now obliged to pay them from their own salaries would be just so much of a relief to them."

The Indiana man looked lovingly through some eleven-year-old whisky in the glass which he held in his hand, then he tasted it and pronounced it good, and then he said: "I know where there is some old peach brandy that is worth its weight in gold, although I suspect it couldn't be bought for money. Some time in the year 1812 Hugh Hamer moved to Lawrence county, Ind., and settled near where the town of Mitchell now stands. One of the first things he did was to plant a peach tree. The peach stone sprouted and the peach tree grew. Old Hugh, who was young Hugh then, took the first full crop of peaches that the tree bore and made a barrel of peach brandy. That was before 1830, and there's some of that brandy left yet. Old Hugh never sold a drop of it, but about once a year he takes a few of his chosen friends to that barrel, and they get about a gill of it. The barrel has a big room all to itself in Hamer's great stone mill, and when the doors of that room are opened you can smell that brandy for fifty yards. I've tasted it just once, and I know the effect. It's as smooth and rosy as strained honey, and tastes just as innocent, but pretty soon the man who drinks it wants to sing and dance on the railroad track, and do something extravagant. He is happy and cheerful and at peace with all the world. The mill is in one of the loveliest and most romantic places you ever saw. Its overshoot wheel is turned by a great stream of water that comes out of Hamer's cave, about 200 yards farther up the valley. I think the whole valley is filled with the aroma of that brandy. It's good."

"When the committee of forty made its report on the Danville massacre," said Congressman Sam Miller, "I wrote rather a long letter to the chairman, Mr. W. T. Sutherland. I told him that one great objection I saw to that sort of riots was the fact that they always killed the republicans. I told him that it would seem fairer to me if they killed just as many democrats as republicans, and I wanted him to explain the thing to me. I gave a long and very good letter from him, in which he gave a history of the affair, and assured me that there was no preconcerted action of the white people, and that the whole thing grew spontaneously out of a light between a white man and a black man. He closed his letter by a cordial invitation for me to come and see him. He seems to be a railroad man, but he didn't send me any pass. However, I'm going down to spend Sunday with him as soon as I can get the time. Suppose you go with me. I'd like to have you."

"Do you know where I can get some chain armor?"
"What for?"
"Do you know what paper I work for?"
"Oh, yes. That's so. I didn't think. I take back that invitation. Don't you go with me."

THEIR STOMACHS HAVE CAVED IN.
New York Tribune.
The Virginia bourgeois was very hungry indeed. They have passed a bill taking from the governor the power to appoint directors of lunatic asylums. When this kind of office is turned over to the politicians but better consider, and go a little farther, for common decency must have vanished whenever the care of the insane is subordinated to partisan greed.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE NATIONAL—THE FLORENCE.
The "White Slave" is drawing crowded houses at the National, and its splendid scenery, no less than the fine acting of the company, renders it an exceedingly interesting performance. It will be played every night this week, with a matinee Saturday afternoon. In connection with the "White Slave," it is interesting to add that Mr. Campbell's new play, "Separation," was presented to the public for the first time on Monday night at the Union Square theater in New York city, and made a decided hit. To have two successful plays on the stage at the same moment is an unusual instance in the life even of a successful dramatic author.

Next week Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Florence will fill an engagement at this theater. Both these actors are old-time favorites with the Washington public, who may assuredly be relied on to give them a hearty welcome. They are supported by a very strong company, and will present plays in which they have made so high a reputation.

FORD'S—THE BOSTON IDEAL OPERA COMPANY.
Ford's opera house has been crowded nightly with an audience delighted at the performance of Callender's combination of minstrel stars. They will "hold the boards" at the opera house every night this week, with Saturday matinee.

Commencing with next Monday night the Boston Ideal opera company will give a week's engagement at the opera house, presenting some favorite operas.

Von Suppe's picturesque opera "Fatinitza" will be presented Monday night with Marie Stone, Mathilde Phillips, Lizzie Burton, Myron W. Whitney, Tom Karl, H. C. Barnabe, and George Frothingham in the cast. The repertory for the remainder of the week is: Tuesday, "Girofle-Girofla" (first time here by the Ideals); Wednesday, "Bohemian Girl"; Thursday, "Musketeers"; Friday, "Fra Diavolo" (first time here by the Ideals); Saturday matinee, "Patience"; Saturday, "Chimes of Normandy." The chorus numbers thirty-five voices, and the orchestra thirteen pieces. Advance sale of seats opens to-day.

Representative White as a Witness.
Representative White, of Kentucky, testified before the house committee on expenditures in the department of justice yesterday in reference to his assertions in the house last week that the present governor of Utah "ought to be wearing striped clothes in a penitentiary instead of filling a governor's position." He referred to the charges of impropriety in the office of Mr. Murray, while United States marshal of Kentucky, and said that the government had been wronged out of thousands of dollars in consequence of expenses incurred by fruitless and unnecessary prosecutions against citizens of the state, by which they were harassed and embittered against the government and its officers. False and fictitious charges for guards were made, and numerous prosecutions had been instituted for the most trivial violations of law, and the arrested parties taken from remote parts of the state to Louisville, passing on route commissioners who could have heard their cases, on preliminary examination. This was done, he said, not in the interest of the government, but apparently for no other reason than to make costs.

Reaching for More.
It is understood that the civil service commission is moving to obtain such legislation as will place all the minor appointments of the internal revenue service under their jurisdiction. The treasury department has supplied the commission with a full list of these employees, embracing deputy clerks, gaugers, storekeepers, and the minor clerks in collection offices. In the event that these places are turned over to the commission it will add considerably to the labors of the examiners in the various states.

Why Stop Pouting.
Yonkers Statesman.
"Why do you look so glum this morning?" inquired young Miss Yeast to her friend Miss Fusanfeather as they met in the hall of the hotel after breakfast yesterday morning.
"Well, I just think it is too awfully mean for anything," poutingly returned Miss Fusanfeather, sticking her footpicks in her bang.
"Why? what's too mean?" asked her friend, a little perplexed.
"Why, that I should be fool enough to ask old Moneybags to marry me," replied Miss Fusanfeather, who was pouting so hard that her eyes were running down her cheeks.
"He accepted the proposal, I suppose?" continued the philanthropist's daughter, in the act of congratulating her friend.
"No, he did not," frankly responded the rejected suitor; "he declined it."
"Well, you might have known better than to have accepted to a man in declining years," said the amiable Miss Yeast, who inherited some of the peculiarities of her parent.

Dakota Diamonds.
Hancock Tribune.
Publishers who preserved their cuts of Guitau are now reaping the reward of their foresight. Some are running them as new members of the senate, some as O'Donnell the avenger, and others as Hon. William R. Morrison, who is looming into view as a presidential candidate.
The name of Jesus is as common among Spaniards as John Smith is with us. A proof this comes from Southern California. An American, while dancing at a fandango, had a surly coru stepped on by his partner, and in response to the reproach, eleven Spaniards responded: "Si, Señor!"

Exchange: The cable announces that "Victoria Woodhull is living a quiet life in England, the wife of Joseph Biddulph Martin, a banker." Nothing is said as to the kind of a life J. Biddulph leads.

Gov. Murray.
Louisville Commercial.
The spectacle of John D. White and ex-clerk George K. Chase stabbing Gov. Murray with all the malice of long-concealed hatred before an investigating committee, while Murray is in remote Utah, is a spectacle which will not commend itself to fair-minded people. Gov. Murray can successfully refute all charges made against his official integrity and personal honor. The Mormons have found willing and ready tools to do their dirty work. But they will be disappointed. Neither the malice of cranks nor the schemes of polygamous traitors can prevail against an honest man.

His Boyhood Days.
Philadelphia Call.
"Yes," mused old Simpson retrospectively, "how well I remember my early boyhood. Ah! those days never come again."
"No, indeed," sighed another lugubrious member of the party.
"And my first pair of boots," went on Simpson, "how proud and delighted I was! Why, don't you know?" and he looked about him inquisitively, "that the first night I insisted on wearing those boots to bed?"
"Yah!" snuffed the old woman from across the room, "and it's many a pair of boots that you have worn to bed since."

A Smokers' Kick.
Chicago Herald.
Now that the tobacco dealers have secured the \$2,750,000 to pay their rebate of internal revenue tax, it seems a good time to again suggest that the general public—the cigar-smoking masses—ought to begin to feel the benefit of the reduction in taxes which went into effect last year. That reduction amounted to 50 per cent. So far none but tobacco manufacturers and dealers have received any benefit. The general public goes on paying the same retail price as before and getting precisely the same quality of goods. When are we going to see some result of the reduction?

Give Them Hope.
The Call.
The Virginia legislature is carrying things with a pretty high hand just now. The Mahone men were ousted one after the other until such a majority was secured as could pass bills over the executive veto, and now they are trying in every way to cripple Gov. Cameron. The members of the legislature had better consider, and go a little slower. The political battlefield is a very unwholesome thing, and parties flushed with victory sometimes march too far and are captured.

CURRENT GOSSIP.

ROMANCE IN A. A maid, a book; A boy, a look; A word said; A horse, a ride; A runaway; A kick; A bed, a chill; A "do," a pill; A cure, a bill.
Again a girl; A smile, a curl; A youth, a kiss; A hand amiss; A church, a priest; A house, a feast; A farm, a hen; A pig, a pen; A babe—Amen!
—Aaron Fleiger.

Among the pretty caprices of fashion in the Riviera this year is the carrying of sunshades covered entirely with natural flowers.

A KENTUCKY farmer found a colony of twenty-seven raccoons in one tree, and their depredations on his corn-shocks and chickens had nearly driven him into lunarkruptcy.

The first of January inaugurated a new era in the town of Dietz, namely, the official use of the German language. The clerk has per capita been eagerly greeted by the German population.

The San Francisco reporter didn't get anything new when he asked a Chinaman how the children of Confucius kept Christmas: "Since like Millean man," was the rejoinder; "eat, drink, and die giunk."

SALVINI's domestic circle consists of two daughters and a son, Alessandro, the latter of whom is playing in his country. His home is a delightful villa situated in the suburbs of Rome, and made happy by the untiring devotion of his daughters.

A VERMONT physician, who found a neighbor in the road too drunk to walk and invited him to crawl into the sleigh, was astonished by the query: "Why, doctor, my family physician is Dr. — do you mean your carrying me home will make any difference?"

THE two highest salaried governors of the states are those of New York and Pennsylvania, who receive \$10,000 a year each. Next come California, Nevada, and Illinois, at \$6,000 each. The governors of Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, Virginia, and Wisconsin are paid \$5,000 each.

Among the emigrants at Castle Garden the other day were two chubby children, ranging from 4 to 12 years, who had come from Ireland and were unattended. Each of the quintet was labeled "To be left till called for." Their parents, who came to this country a year ago, called for them the moment they arrived.

SIR JOSEPH BAZALGETTE'S carefully compiled statistics about the water supply of the chief cities of the world show the following per capita distribution: Rome, 160.33 gallons per head a day; Marseille, 128.4; Washington, 143; Chicago, 102.5; Boston, 73.3; New York, 63.5; Philadelphia, 34.3; Hamburg, 45.5; Paris, 36; London, 31; Berlin, 15.5.

IN Brazil, where the inhabitants take coffee many times a day, alcoholism is unknown. Emigrants gradually contract a fondness for coffee, and their children fall into the habit, and never contract a love for liquors that are so fatal in other countries. The number of cafes in the large cities is enormous, while the drinking saloons are very few.

It is authoritatively stated that twenty of the liberal newspapers in England are now owned by a syndicate, with an American millionaire at their head. The syndicate consists of the establishment at Birmingham, and the editorial manager boasts that he can speak to 2,000,000 people every day. One at least of the London dailies is believed to belong to the syndicate.

THE French national library, according to the annual inventory just completed, contains 2,500,000 volumes. In the cabinet of manuscripts are 92,800 volumes and 141,000 French manuscripts of all periods. The print collection numbers upward of 2,000,000 examples kept in 14,500 volumes and 4,000 portfolios. A special gallery is reserved for the most costly books, which number some 50,000.

FOR several years past an ordinary looking box has been used for a door step in the rear of the M. E. church in Birmingham. The church, who takes care of the church, removed the box from its resting place and, noticing something peculiar about it, opened it and found that it had been carefully packed with paper and contained 375 watch crystals of assorted sizes, a jeweler's saw, lot of watch screws, the right size set out, lot of clock keys, and numerous other articles.

THERE was never a week in the history of Philadelphia, excepting, perhaps, grand holiday occasions, when theaters did so well as last week. Booth crowded the Walnut street every night, Mapleson never did so well as he did with Pat at the Academy of Music, Lawrence Barrett had an exceptional success at the Lyceum, and the theaters were crowded nightly. The receipts for the week are estimated at nearly \$100,000. This does not seem like hard times.

A STRIKING exemplification of how we return upon angry to the vernacular is furnished by the experience of a young Hungarian sailor, who writes that he has discovered in Arabia a colony of Hungarians, who have been in the troubles of 1848-49 and married into Arabian families. The sailor would not have discovered them but for the fact that one who was engaged in some difficult task cursed in Hungarian. They hospitably entertained the visitor and drank toasts to wine of their own making.

The magnificent fleet of ironclads which the Italian government purchased a few years ago at an immense cost proves much less formidable than was anticipated. It seems that their draught of water was miscalculated, and that they cannot carry their heavy guns with turret without sinking too deeply. Their armament will be of little use, and the great guns will be replaced by lighter ones. This will expose them considerably more to the fire of an enemy, and greatly lessen their capacity for attack or resistance.

THE fashion of wealthy English yacht-owners spending their winters aboard their vessels in southern water increases every year. At present there is no yacht in the world, except which by the pennants of British clubs cruising in the Mediterranean. Among them are nineteen steamers. The Marquis of Alton has his elegant steam yacht "Titania" at Leghorn, the Marquis of Bute is cruising in his schooner "Lady Bird," and a considerable portion of the peerage of parliament is afloat. Among the peers who are thus enjoying themselves are the Earl Cathines and Lords Wolverton, Ashburton, and Paget.

THE third finger of the left hand was chosen, as there was supposed to be a vein upon which the ring would press that was directly connected with the heart. Kings of dignitaries were worn on the third finger of the right hand, thus expressing power and ability, but the third finger of the left hand has always been the one most honored by the symbol of love and trust. The Germans wear the signet ring on the third finger of the left hand, and all fingers and even the thumbs have been changed at different ages. Now the use is confined to the third and fourth, but occasionally a set ring is worn on the first finger, after the German style.

A YOUNG lady recently addressed a letter to Rusk in the subject of art training. Desirous of becoming an artist, and wishing good advice, she thought she could do no better than apply to so high an authority. The reply was characteristic rather than disappointing. The great critic, without giving her any hint as to the right course to pursue, told her "It would be better to write less, and cultivate a good and beautiful handwriting. No one who writes as you do could make a good artist." She took five people to decipher the hieroglyphics in which Rusk clothed these few words. The young lady framed this curious production and hung it in her studio.

A MR. LINDFIELD, an Englishman, has invented a method of steering a balloon through the air, and, should it prove a success, he expects that in a short time aerial traveling will be as safe and as easy as traveling by steamship or railway, and that a speed of fifty miles an hour will be attainable with or without the wind's assistance. Theoretically and practically—so far as a trial on terra firma with a model can be taken as a proof—the new machine is said to be a success. It is twenty feet six inches long, nineteen feet wide, eight feet six inches high, and weighs 200 pounds. Its motive power is supplied by a screw, but Mr. Lindfield has not yet decided the somewhat important question as to how the motive power is to be supplied to the screw, whether by steam, electricity, or condensed air.